

CLAIMS

1. An information generating apparatus, characterized by comprising adding means for adding change copy control information and normal copy control information to an information signal, the
5 change copy control information being used when a changing operation for changing quality of the information signal is performed, the normal copy control information being used when the changing operation is not performed.
- 10 2. The information generating apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that the changing operation is quality degradation for degrading the quality of the information signal.
3. The information generating apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that the information signal includes at least image
15 information, and the changing operation is enlargement for scaling up an image corresponding to the image information or a reduction for scaling down the image.
4. The information generating apparatus according to claim 3, characterized in that the changing operation is enlargement or a
20 reduction and superimposition of another image information on the image information having been subjected to enlargement or a reduction.
5. The information generating apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that the changing operation is superimposition
25 of advertisement information on the information signal.

6. The information generating apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that the changing operation is a reducing operation for reducing an amount of data of the information signal.

7. The information generating apparatus according to claim 1,
5 characterized in that the change copy control information includes a restrictive condition for copying, the condition being more moderate than a restrictive condition for copying of the normal copy control information.

8. The information generating apparatus according to claim 1,
10 characterized in that the adding means embeds the change copy control information and the normal copy control information in the information signal by using digital watermarking.

9(Currently amended). An information reproducing apparatus for reproducing an information signal, to which change copy control information and normal copy control information are added, the change copy control information being used when a changing operation for changing quality of the information signal is performed, the normal copy control information being used when the changing operation is not performed,

20 the apparatus characterized by comprising:
changing means for performing the changing operation, and
setting means for, when the changing operation is performed and the information signal is reproduced, setting copy control information included in the reproduced information signal at a value
25 indicated the change copy control information.

10(Canceled)

11(Currently amended). The information reproducing apparatus according to claim 9, characterized in that when the information signal is reproduced without the changing operation, the setting means sets, as the contents of the normal copy control information, the contents of the copy control information included in the reproduced information signal.

12(Currently amended). An information reproducing apparatus for reproducing an information signal added with change information indicating whether a changing operation for changing quality of the information signal is performed or not, change copy control information being used when the changing operation is performed and normal copy control information being used when the changing operation is not performed,

_____ the reproducing apparatus, characterized by comprising:

15 detecting means for detecting the change information,
deciding means for deciding whether the quality is changed or not according to the detected change information, and

setting means for setting, when the quality is changed, copy control information included in the reproduced information signal at a value indicated the change copy control information.

13(Currently amended). An information recording apparatus for recording an information signal, to which change copy control information and normal copy control information are added, the change copy control information being used when a changing operation for changing quality of the information signal is performed, the normal copy control information being used when the changing operation is not performed, on an information recording medium,

the recording apparatus, characterized by comprising:
changing means for performing the changing operation,
selecting means for selecting a kind of the changing operation
capable of recording the information signal on the recording medium,
5 and

recording means for recording the information signal on the
recording medium, the information signal having been changed in
quality by the selected changing operation.

14(Currently amended). An information recording apparatus for
10 recording an information signal, to which change copy control
information and normal copy control information are added, the change
copy control information being used when a changing operation for
changing quality of the information signal is performed, the normal
copy control information being used when the changing operation
15 is not performed, on a recording medium,

the recording apparatus, characterized by comprising:
changing means for performing the changing operation,
first recording means for recording the information signal
changed in quality on the recording medium, and

20 second recording means for recording change information on the
recording medium, the change information indicating that the quality
of the information signal is changed.

15. An information generating method, characterized by comprising:
an adding step of adding change copy control information and
25 normal copy control information to the information signal, the change
copy control information being used when a changing operation for
changing quality of the information signal is performed, the normal

copy control information being used when the changing operation is not performed.

16(Currently amended). An information reproducing method for reproducing an information signal, to which change copy control information and normal copy control information are added, the change copy control information being used when a changing operation for changing quality of the information signal is performed, the normal copy control information being used when the changing operation is not performed,

the reproducing method, characterized by comprising:
a changing step of performing the changing operation, and
a setting step of, when the changing operation is performed and the information signal is reproduced, setting copy control information included in the reproduced information signal at a value indicated the change copy control information.

17(Currently amended). An information reproducing method for reproducing an information signal added with change information indicating whether a changing operation for changing quality of the information signal is performed or not, change copy control information being used when the changing operation is performed and normal copy control information being used when the changing operation is not performed,

the reproducing method, characterized by comprising:
a detecting step of detecting the change information,
a deciding step of deciding whether the quality is changed or not according to the detected change information, and

a setting step of setting, when the quality is changed, copy control information included in the reproduced information signal at a value indicated the change copy control information.

18(Currently amended). An information recording method for

5 recording an information signal, to which change copy control information and normal copy control information are added, the change copy control information being used when a changing operation for changing quality of the information signal is performed, the normal copy control information being used when the changing operation
10 is not performed, on an information recording medium,

the recording method, characterized by comprising:

a changing step of performing the changing operation,

a selecting step of selecting a kind of the changing operation capable of recording the information signal on the recording medium,

15 and

a recording step of recording the information signal on the recording medium, the information signal having been changed in quality by the selected changing operation.

19(Currently amended). An information recording method for

20 recording an information signal, to which change copy control information and normal copy control information are added, the change copy control information being used when a changing operation for changing quality of the information signal is performed, the normal copy control information being used when the changing operation
25 is not performed, on a recording medium,

the recording method, characterized by comprising:

a changing step of performing the changing operation,

a first recording step of recording the information signal changed in quality on the recording medium, and

a second recording step of recording change information on the recording medium, the change information indicating that the quality
5 of the information signal is changed.

20 (Currently amended). A copyright protecting method for protecting a copyright of an information signal by adding, to the information signal, copy control information for restricting copying of the information signal,

10 characterized in that the copy control information includes change copy control information being used when a changing operation for changing quality of the information signal is performed and normal copy control information being used when the changing operation is not performed.

15 21. An information generating program characterized by causing a generating computer included in an information generating apparatus to act as adding means for adding change copy control information and normal copy control information to an information signal, the change copy control information being used when a changing operation
20 for changing quality of the information signal is performed, the normal copy control information being used when the changing operation is not performed.

22 (Currently amended). An information reproducing program for a reproducing computer included in an information reproducing
25 apparatus for reproducing an information signal, to which change copy control information and normal copy control information are added, the change copy control information being used when a changing

operation for changing quality of the information signal is performed,
the normal copy control information being used when the changing
operation is not performed, the reproducing program characterized
by causing the reproducing computer to act as:

5 changing means for performing the changing operation, and
 setting means for, when the changing operation is performed
and the information signal is reproduced, setting copy control
information included in the reproduced information signal at a value
indicated the change copy control information.

10 23(Currently amended). An information reproducing program for
a reproducing computer included in an information reproducing
apparatus for reproducing an information signal added with change
information indicating whether a changing operation for changing
quality of the information signal is performed or not, change copy
15 control information being used when the changing operation is
performed and normal copy control information being used when the
changing operation is not performed,

 the reproducing program characterized by causing the
reproducing computer to act as:

20 detecting means for detecting the change information,
 deciding means for deciding whether the quality is changed or
not according to the detected change information, and
 setting means for setting, when the quality is changed, copy
control information included in the reproduced information signal
25 at a value indicated the change copy control information.

24(Currently amended). An information recording program for a
recording computer included in an information recording apparatus

for recording an information signal, to which change copy control information and normal copy control information are added, the change copy control information being used when a changing operation for changing quality of the information signal is performed, the normal
5 copy control information being used when the changing operation is not performed, on an information recording medium,

the recording program characterized by causing the recording computer to act as:

changing means for performing the changing operation,
10 selecting means for selecting a kind of the changing operation capable of recording the information signal on the recording medium, and

recording means for recording the information signal on the recording medium, the information signal having been changed in
15 quality by the selected changing operation.

25 (Currently amended). An information recording program for a recording computer included in an information recording apparatus for recording an information signal, to which change copy control information and normal copy control information are added, the change
20 copy control information being used when a changing operation for changing quality of the information signal is performed, the normal
copy control information being used when the changing operation is not performed, on a recording medium,

the recording program characterized by causing the recording
25 computer to act as:

changing means for performing the changing operation,

first recording means for recording the information signal changed in quality on the recording medium, and

second recording means for recording change information on the recording medium, the change information indicating that the quality
5 of the information signal is changed.

26. An information recording medium, characterized in that the information generating program of claim 21 is recorded so that the program is read by the generating computer.

27. An information recording medium, characterized in that the
10 information reproducing program of claim 22 or 23 is recorded so that the program is read by the reproducing computer.

28. An information recording medium, characterize in that the information reproducing program of claim 24 or 25 is recorded so that the program is read by the recording computer.

15 29. A recording medium, characterized by comprising an information recording area for recording an information signal added with change copy control information used when a changing operation for changing